PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

14/09/2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

PCT/EP03/13142

WO 21.1069

2000

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

International filing date (day/month/year)

Priority date (day/month/year)

21/11/2003

31/12/2002

Applicant

SERVICES PETROLIERS SCHLUMBERGER

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

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Form PCT/IPEA/416 (August 2002) P20473

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of T	ransmittal of International
WO 21.1069	FOR FURTHER ACTION Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)		
International application No.	International filing date (day/r	nonth/year) Priori	ty date (day month year)
PCT/EP03/13142	21/11/2003	31/	12/2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC			
E21B47/00			
Applicant			
SERVICES PETROLIERS SCHLUMBERGER			
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet. 			
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).			
These annexes consists of a total of sheets.			
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:			
I X Basis of the report			
II Priority			
III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability			
IV Lack of unity of invention V \overline{X} Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
VI Certain documents cited			
VII Certain defects in the international application			
VIII Certain observations on the international application			
Date of submission of the demand	Date	of completion of this rep	
29/07/2004		09/09/2004	Lind disches Patentam,
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/		rized officer	J. Ope
European Patent Office, P.B. 5. NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Nether Tel.: (+31-70) 340-2040	lands	ARTZ J	by brevets . E.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		+ 49-89) 2399 2828 	
Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) P20476 (October 2002)		Sedolus soillo. 823

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP03/13142

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JUN 2005

I. Basis of the report

The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in the claims meets the criteria mentioned in Article 33 (1) PCT, i.e. it appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step and to be industrially applicable.